March 22, 1967

The Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin
Mayor of Baltimore
Baltimore, Maryland 21200

Dear Mr. McKeldin:

When efforts, largely successful, were made to suppress my books (copies herewith), the first bookstore in Baltimore to carry them was Mr. Lee's. Almost none carried them. No wholesaler would offer them. One of the larger stores, after demand caused it to stock the first one, which sold well and profitably, returned my consignment shipping of the second with packaging that guaranteed all would be unsalable on receipt.

There has been virtually no mention of my writing in the papers, save for insults. However, the books have attracted considerable TV and radio attention, not less than ten hours of it in Baltimore. One would think this alone would impel the bookstores to stock it. Not so. We still have problems of freedom of press, freedom to speak.

So, in interceding on Mr. Lee's behalf when he is terrorized by the fascists whose abuse of freedom must also be protected if we are to defend the rights of decent citizens, you have done more than seek the protection of Mr. Lee's rights. You have struck a blow for freedom to read and freedom to write.

For this we salute you!

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg